



# *SIS Strings Course Outline*

**Instructor:** Ms. Julia Kim

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## **Course Description:**

SIS Strings program is designed for students who play string instruments –Violin, viola, cello, or double bass. Our goal is to refine musical abilities both as solo performers and as members of a performing ensemble.

Students will be reviewing basics such as posture and music fundamentals (theory, ear-training, scales, proper concert etiquette) as well as developing these basics into a string orchestra repertoire that can be performed on stage.

Students will be performing in numerous school events such as the Winter/Spring Concerts, and KAIAC Festivals.

## **PREREQUISITES**

Students must have previous musical experience and training on a string instrument (violin, viola, cello, bass) through participation in Suzuki Program, or through private study.

## **CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS**

- Respect the facility and equipment
- Respect yourself, your classmates, your director, your music.
- No food, drink, cell phones, electronic devices are allowed in the Strings room.
- Do not touch anything that is not your property- off limits to any cabinets, Ms. Kim's desk, computer, equipment.
- Always bring a pencil, eraser, music folder, and other necessary materials.
- Instrument must have a nametag and must be brought to each class.
- An extra set of strings must be in the instrument case at all times.
- If an instrument is in the repair shop, a parent note is expected followed by a receipt from the repair shop once the instrument has been returned.

## **HOME PRACTICE**

Students are expected to practice at least 45 minutes on a daily basis on scales and repertoire. Study with a private teacher is highly recommended.

## **ASSESSMENT POLICY**

At SIS, assessments are broken down into the following categories:

- Performance
- \* Knowledge and Understanding
- Critical Thinking/Creation
- Rehearsal Skills.

Below is the breakdown of the category weightings in the music department.

Assessment and evaluation are ongoing during rehearsals and performances and are based on the following aspects.

- **Performance (50%)**
  - Performance Test
  - Concerts
  - Festivals
- **Knowledge/Understanding (10%)**
  - Music Literacy, notational literacy, style
  - Learning of selected music literature
- **Critical Thinking (10%)**
  - Analysis, description, listening, evaluation of music repertoire
- **Rehearsal Skills (30%)**
  - Rehearsal etiquette and preparation, engagement
  - Posture, position, breathing, communication, cooperation

### **REHEARSAL POLICY & MAKE-UP WORK**

The rehearsal process is an inclusive one that is best accomplished with all members present and actively engaged. The absence of any student has a negative impact on the rehearsal development and performance readiness of the ensemble. At the discretion of the teacher, a student that has missed a rehearsal may be required to perform their parts individually outside of the regular rehearsal time.

Failure to attend the dress rehearsal and concert will affect the grade on the report card. If an immediate emergency occurs, students must bring a note from a doctor or parent explaining the absence. A make-up project will be assigned to maintain the grade.

Students who do not meet the performance expectations will be asked to come in for practice sessions during lunch recess or a schedule a time with the teacher.

**Please fill in the information below and return to Ms. Kim by Friday, August 23rd, 2013**(This will be your first assignment). The signatures indicate that the student and parent have read and understood the Strings class policy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Instrument

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's email (school)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's phone number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's name(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's phone number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's email

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's signature

\*Years of experience on instrument: \_\_\_\_\_ years

\* Are you taking private lessons?    Yes / No  
If yes, how often? \_\_\_\_\_times a week?

\* Can you tune your instrument (check one)?  
\_\_\_\_ Yes, I can tune my instrument  
\_\_\_\_ Yes, I can tune my instrument but would like assistance  
\_\_\_\_ I am not comfortable tuning my instrument